Phillips County Commissioner Meeting Minutes March 31, 2020

I. Call to order

Chairman Terry Hoffmeister called to order the regular meeting of the Phillip County Commissioners at 9:00 A.M. at Phillips County Event Center in the Biesemeier Room.

Prior to the regular scheduled meeting, board met with Road & Bridge Supervisor Mike Salyards and Maintenance Supervisor Dan Waln, via Zoom Conferencing, for a work session.

II. Attendees

Chairman Terry Hofmeister, Commissioners Don Lock and Harlan Stern, County Administrator Pam Jensen and County Clerk Beth Zilla.

Attendees via Zoom video conferencing:

County Emergency Manager Bob Heldenbrand, Phillips County Economic Development Executive Director Trisha Herman, Senator Cory Gardner representative Darlene Carpio, Fair-board President Kayla Kafka, Human Services Director Lori Lundgren, and Sheriff Thomas Elliott.

III. Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda

Lock made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of County Emergency Management Officer Bob Heldenbrand and Phillips County Economic Development Executive Director Trisha Herman. Stern seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lock made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2020 meeting as presented. Stern seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Appointments

The board met with Phillips County Economic Development Executive Director Trisha Herman and Phillips County Emergency Management Officer Bob Heldenbrand for updates on COVID-19. Herman has been working on documenting financial needs of the community and filing for COVID Relief Funds. Heldenbrand continues to engage with all activated EOC Emergency Support Functions (ESF), Local, Regional, State, and Federal Partners in preparation of the impact to our community from COVID-19.

The board met with Senator Cory Gardner's representative Darlene Carpio. Carpio stated that legislation just signed into law the COVID virus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES ACT). The CARES ACT introduces the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) that provides funding and the goal of preventing job loss and small businesses failure due to losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The new PPP loan program is available for eligible small businesses, including sole proprietors, and non-profits, veterans' organizations and tribal business concerns, to provide a forgivable loan to cover payroll and other costs. Additionally, the CARES Act provides funding for the Small Business Act (SBA) loans.

The board met with fair board president Kayla Kafka. Kafka stated that she has given the fair concerts and carnival contracts to County Attorney Tammy Kelley with Cline Williams for review. Kafka asked the Board for approval to run the beer garden for the first weekend of the car races on May 29th and 30th and to retain the proceeds. Board agreed.

Stern made a motion to become the Board of Human Services at 11:20. Lock seconded the motion and the motion carried. This portion of the meeting will be maintained by the Department of Human Services.

Chairman Hofmeister announced at 11:28 that the Board will resume for regular Board business.

The Board met with County Sheriff Thomas Elliott to discuss the recent vehicle pursuit of two minors and the damage that was done to three law enforcement vehicles. Elliott is waiting for response from the insurance companies. Elliott received quotes from Buck Widgery and Andrew Gordon on the costs of repairs. Board will decide to repair or replace the vehicles after response from insurance companies.

IV. Old Business

The board decided not to donate to Dandelion Daze due to the COVID-19.

No decision has been made on the Event Center MOU.

No decision has been made on the tree maintenance and removal at Courthouse Courtyard and the Fairgrounds. County Maintenance Supervisor Dan Waln will seek further bids.

No decision has been made on the layout of the west side grandstand building.

No further action will be taken on CDOT-MMOF/385 Project until response from CDOT.

V. New Business/Motions

Stern made a motion to approve the Roadway Occupancy Agreement submitted by Highline Electric Association for underground construction of a 7.2 KV UG electric line across County Road 7 from Section 33 to Section 34 township 8N range 47W, and for underground construction of a 7.2 KV UG electric line across County Road 28 from Section 34 to Section 27 township 8N and R47W. Lock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lock made a motion to approve the application from Haxtun Hospital District to renew the license to provide ambulance service in Phillips County. Stern seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Stern made a motion to extend vacation carry over for employees to May 31, 2020. Lock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VI. Adjournment

Chairman Hofmeister adjourned the meeting at 12:06 A.M.

Minutes submitted by County Clerk Beth Zilla

Next meeting: April 8, 2020

County Commissioners:

Attest:

Terry Hofmeister

Beth Zilla - County Clerk

Donald J. Lock

Harlan Stern